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tions to the original. The failure to do this is responsible for the chaotic state to which many once valuable text-books have been reduced.

The text of the work has been carefully revised; and many slight verbal changes have been made, which add to the clearness of the statement, or bring it into greater harmony with the present status of the law. These are too numerous to mention; but one may be pardoned for referring to the happy addition to the section (§ 10) in which the author embodies his most admirable "general conclusions as to the law of husband and wife,"—"Under all circumstances, moreover, the physical superiority of the male companion, and his propensity to self-indulgence, are forces which woman will always have to reckon with."

There are special departments of the subject matter to which one could wish that the author had given a little fuller treatment. Such is that of the ante-nuptial fraud of a spouse, (§81) which, while presenting the broad principles of the doctrine, fails to mention the exceptions that have been made in favor of conveyances in favor of children; and fails, too, to include some important recent cases.

There is also one improvement that might well be made;—and that is the furnishing of a fuller index. As the case now stands, it is easier to find some matters by reference to the Table of Contents than by reference to the Index—a state of things which certainly ought not to be. These imperfections, however, do not detract from the real value of the work, which, as said before, needs no further recommendation than the fame it has already gained for itself and its author.

ARDEMUS STEWART.

OUTLINES OF TRIAL PROCEDURE. By J. L. BENNETT, of the Chicago Bar. Chicago: Donohue & Henneberry. 1895.

To the outsider, practice must often seem a huge mass of disconnected details; while the lawyer himself finds the temptation and the tendency almost irresistible to drift into empiricism, and to work by "rule of thumb" alone.

Whatever tends to bring order out of this chaos, by showing that, after all, there are underlying principles which are *sometimes* applied, is to be welcomed ; and from this standpoint, one may say a word of commendation for the present pamphlet—for it is scarcely more. When, however, the discussion of practice subjects is made general, and not confined to one jurisdiction, categorical statement and great condensation can rarely be united ; so that, while this book aims at being “ something akin to Rules of Order,” it is really only a collection of conversational hints, too general to be of much practical value in Illinois, and too meagre to be of more than passing interest to the student in his search after fundamentals.

The division into sections, as though this were a code, embodying absolute rules, strikes one as unnecessary.

S. D. M.